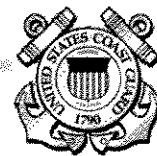


United States Coast Guard
Marine Inspection Office Europe



Lylantse Plein 1 Box 189
2908 LH Capelle a/d IJssel
The Netherlands

Phone: 31 (0) 10 442 4458
Fax: 31 (0) 10 450 4752
inspections@acteur.uscg.mil

MARINE SAFETY INFORMATION BULLETIN (MSIB) 03-05

August 3, 2005

**SUBMITTAL OF RESPONSE PLANS FOR NON TANK VESSELS
REQUEST FOR COMMENTS**

The Coast Guard will not enforce Section 701 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Act of 2004 until the final regulations are issued and in effect. Section 701 requires owners and operators of non-tank vessels greater than 400 gross tons (ITC) to submit plans for responding to a substantial threat and a worst-case discharge of oil. The Act compelled the Coast Guard to issue regulations and required owners and operators of non-tank vessels to have approved response plans by August 9, 2005. Due to the time needed to provide for and consider public comments, final regulations will not be ready by the deadline. My MSIB 02-05 is cancelled.

In the meantime non-tank vessel owners and operators are highly encouraged to develop and submit response plans using NVIC 01-05: Interim Guidance for the Development and Review of Response Plans for Non-Tank Vessels as a guide. The provisions of the NVIC are not enforceable by the Coast Guard. Instead it describes a voluntary process for owners and operators who believe their vessels will be covered by the act to secure an Interim Authorization Letter. The NVIC can be obtained at www.uscg.mil/HQ/G-M/NVIC. Additional information regarding this issue can be found in Federal Register / Vol. 70, No.121, dated June 24, 2005.

For any questions regarding this MSIB, please contact LT Brian Province or CWO4 David Harris at the above number.

M. P. RAND
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection